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Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 SS-15 PM-04 NSC-05 SSO-00
NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 /054 W
----------070903Z 094525 /12
O 070823Z JUN 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4058
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 NATO 04855

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR: DATA ISSUES: SPC MEETING JUNE 6

REF: (A) STATE 118087 (DTG 231329Z MAY 77),
(B) STATE 129439 (DTG 041712Z JUN 77)

SUMMARY: AT JUNE 6 SPC MEETING, FRG INTRODUCED ITS PAPER ON UNIT DISAGGREGATION. TABLING OF FRG PAPER WAS GENERALLY WELCOMED BY SPC. CANADIAN, US, DUTCH AND UK REPS NOTED THE IMPORTANCE OF SUBDIVIDING "OTHER PERSONNEL" BY NATIONALITY. BELGIAN REP REMAINED SILENT ON THIS ISSUE, BUT STATED VIEWS ON EXCHANGE OF DIVISIONAL DATA AND ON LISTING OF LOCATION OF MAJOR UNITS WHICH WERE COMPATIBLE WITH US VIEWS. FRG REP NOTED THAT FRG COULD READILY DROP THE REQUIREMENT OF PROVIDING LOCATIONAL DATA OF MAJOR UNITS. NEXT SPC MEETING WILL BE JUNE 9, WHEN WE EXPECT FULLY INSTRUCTED DISCUSSION. MISSION COMMENT FOLLOWS SEPTEL.
END SUMMARY

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1. FRG REP (CITRON) INTRODUCED THE FRG WORKING PAPER ON UNIT DISAGGREGATION, DRAWING ON THE TALKING POINTS TRANSMITTED SEPTEL.

2. CANADIAN REP (BARTLEMAN) WELCOMED THE TABLING OF THE FRG PAPER. HE SAID HE NOTICED ONE MAJOR FLAW IN IT, THE FACT THAT "OTHER PERSONNEL" WERE NOT IDEN-

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TIFIED BY NATIONALITY. HE NOTED THAT OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO IDENTIFY THE SOURCE OF THE DISCREPANCY BETWEEN EASTERN DATA AND WESTERN ESTIMATES OF THAT DATA, AND WE GIVE THE OTHER SIDE AN OPPORTUNITY TO HIDE THAT DISCREPANCY IN "OTHER PERSONNEL" IF WE DO NOT BREAK THAT CATEGORY DOWN BY NATIONALITY. IN ADDITION, HE KNEW HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD NOT WANT THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PROPOSAL TO THE EAST TO BE TOO ELABORATE. HE ALSO THOUGHT THAT AT SOME POINT THE SPC MIGHT ASK THE MBFR WORKING GROUP TO LOOK AT THE SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF DISAGGREGATING ALLIED AIR MANPOWER, AND OF REVEALING THE LOCATION OF ALLIED GROUND MANPOWER, SINCE THE EARLIER WG STUDY DID NOT ADDRESS THESE POINTS. CANADIAN REP SAID HE WAS SPEAKING ON THE BASIS OF HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH CANADIAN AUTHORITIES ON HIS RECENT VISIT TO OTTAWA.

2. BELGIAN REP (CROLLEN) ALSO WELCOMED THE FRG PAPER. HE QUESTIONED THE NEED TO INCLUDE IN THE INITIAL PROPOSAL TO THE EAST AN EXCHANGE OF DATA ON DIVISIONS, SINCE THIS MIGHT MAKE THE PROPOSAL UNNEGOTIABLE. HE ALSO QUESTIONED THE NEED TO LIST THE LOCATION OF MAJOR UNITS, SINCE THIS MIGHT SEEM "INQUISITORIAL" FROM THE EASTERN VIEWPOINT.

3. US REP (MOORE) MADE COMMENTS BASED ON REF A, IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF B. HE WELCOMED THE TABLING OF THE FRG PAPER, AND SAID HE HAD SOME US VIEWS ON UNIT DISAGGREGATION, WHICH ENABLED HIM TO OFFER PRELIMINARY COMMENT ON THE FRG PAPER. HE SAID HE WAS SURE THE US WOULD WELCOME MAJOR POINTS IN THE FRG PAPER, SUCH AS DESIGNATION OF

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MAJOR UNITS BY NATIONALITY. HOWEVER, HE KNEW THAT US THINKING FAVORED SUBDIVIDING BY NATIONALITY THE FIGURES FOR "OTHER PERSONNEL." HE NOTED THAT THIS WOULD BE IMPORTANT, FIRST, TO ELICIT THE ADDITIONAL DATA FROM THE OTHER SIDE WHICH THE AHG NEEDS, IN ORDER TO SEEK THE SOURCE OF THE DISCREPANCY AND TO PURSUE THE BASIC ALLIED OBJECTIVES; AND SECOND, ONCE DATA IS EXCHANGED, TO AVOID HAVING A LARGE CATEGORY, AMOUNTING TO PERHAPS ONE THIRD OF EASTERN GROUND FORCES, WHERE THE DISCREPANCY COULD BE LOCATED. HE ALSO NOTED US VIEW THAT INFORMATION ON SPECIFIC LOCATION OF UNITS SHOULD NOT BE MANDATORY, AND THAT AHG SHOULD BE PROVIDED DATA ON ALL DIVISIONS FOR USE AT ITS DISCRETION, RATHER THAN MAKING EXCHANGE OF DIVISIONAL DATA A MANDATORY PART OF THE INITIAL PROPOSAL TO THE EAST.

4. NETHERLANDS REP (BUWALDA) ALSO WELCOMED THE FRG PAPER. HE SAID THAT THE ALLIES MUST ASK IF THE FRG PROPOSAL WILL FULFILL OUR PURPOSE OF UNCOVERING THE DATA DIS-

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CREPANCY, AND IF IT HAS A FAIR CHANCE OF ACCEPTANCE BY THE EAST SO THAT IT WILL ELICIT THE ADDITIONAL DATA WE SEEK FROM THE EAST. HE SAW QUESTION MARKS ON BOTH SCORES IN THE FRG PAPER, SPECIFICALLY IN ITS LUMPING TOGETHER OF "OTHER PERSONNEL," WITH NO NATIONAL BREAKDOWN. HE ALSO ASKED MC REP TO PULL TOGETHER THE RELEVANT FIGURES SO THAT THEY WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR USE BY SPC AT SHORT NOTICE.

5. ITALIAN REP (SFARA) SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THE FRG PAPER

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SHOULD LEAD TO ALLIED CONSENSUS ON DATA DISAGGREGATION. HE SHARED THE VIEWS STATED BY BELGIAN AND US REPS REGARDING INSISTANCE ON LOCATION AND ON DIVISIONAL DATA IN THE INITIAL PROPOSAL TO THE EAST.

6. UK REP (JANVRIN) ALSO WELCOMED THE FRG PAPER. HE AGREED WITH THOSE WHO HAD POINTED OT ITS OMISSION OF SUBDIVISIONS BY NATIONALITY FOR "OTHER PERSONNEL." THERE IS A STRONG CASE FOR IDENTIFYING "OTHER PERSONNEL" BY NATIONALITY IN ORDER THAT THE PROPOSAL WOULD HAVE A CHANCE OF ELICITING FIGURES FROM THE OTHER SIDE AND IN ORDER TO AVOID CREATING A LARGE CATEGORY WHERE THE DISCREPANCY COULD BE HIDDEN. HE KNEW HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD WANT TO TAKE A CLOSE LOOK AT HOW THE FRG PAPER TREATS EXCHANGE OF DATA ON DIVISIONS, AIR MANPOWER, AND NATURE OF DISCLAIMER.

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7. FRG REP CLARIFIED THAT FRG DOES NOT CONSIDER IT NECESSARY TO ASK THE EAST TO STATE SPECIFIC LOCATION OF MAJOR UNITS. FRG COULD JUST AS EASILY DROP THIS ASPECT OF ITS PROPOSAL. HE ALSO NOTED, IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, THAT

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WHAT THE FRG PAPER SAID ABOUT DIVISIONAL DATA DID NOT SIMPLY APPLY ONLY TO DIVISIONS WHICH COME UNDER CORPS OR ARMIES, BUT TO INDEPENDENT DIVISIONS AS WELL.

8. ACTING MC REP (CHANDLER) SAID THAT STAFF GROUP WOULD SEEK TO PULL TOGETHER THE RELEVANT FIGURES, IF POSSIBLE, FOR NEXT SPC MEETING.

9. NEXT SPC MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 9.

10. MISSION COMMENT WILL FOLLOW SEPTEL. BENNETT

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